

## Nathan Irwin

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**From:** Ed Swiatek  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 10:22 AM  
**To:** (b) (6); Stefan; Abigail Low - 3PX; Brett Molash - 3PCN; (b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** Gary Zimmerman - Zimmerman (3PCMB); Nathan Irwin  
**Subject:** RE: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions  
**Attachments:** DOC031022-03102022101129.pdf

Melissa

The quickest way would be to update the submittal that was already marked approved and revise the comments to note the NFPA 286 compliance. Nate will issue a follow-up RFI stating the specification requirement revision.

We spoke with the supplier to getting an updated quotation for this requirement.

Ed

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 1:44 PM  
**To:** (b) (6); Abigail Low - 3PX <abby.low@gsa.gov>; Brett Molash - 3PCN <brett.molash@gsa.gov>; (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Ed Swiatek <eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com>; Gary Zimmerman - Zimmerman (3PCMB) <gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

Ed –  
Based on below and additional review on our end, Scranton products can provide the HDPE toilet partitions that are NFPA 286 compliant and can provide the testing data if requested.

Can you confirm quickest way to move this forward? It does not seem that this the NFPA 286 compliant material is designated as separate product line, therefore a spec change should be what they need to trigger a new NFPA 286 compliant product submittal – therefore, we will get this out to you ASAP. Knowing that this is coming, can you communicate to them that we will be requesting the new submittal?

If I've missed something critical in this exchange – please let me know .

Thanks,

(b) (6)

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 11:33 AM  
**To:** Abigail Low - 3PX <[abby.low@gsa.gov](mailto:abby.low@gsa.gov)>; Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>; (b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** Ed Swiatek <[eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com](mailto:eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com)>; Gary Zimmerman - Zimmerman (3PCMB) <[gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov](mailto:gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov)>; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

Abby,

Per attached email correspondence with Debbie Gardner (GSA FPE) and Morgan Hurley (HFC Project FPE) as well as internal consultation within Ennead, the HDPE partitions are required to meet NFPA 286 to be used within the courthouse OR an alternate product must be used that meets this testing standard.

Regards,

(b) (6)

ENNEAD ARCHITECTS LLP

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**From:** Abigail Low - 3PX <[abby.low@gsa.gov](mailto:abby.low@gsa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 11:12 AM

**To:** (b) (6) >; Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)> (b) (6)

**Cc:** Ed Swiatek <[eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com](mailto:eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com)>; Gary Zimmerman - Zimmerman (3PCMB) <[gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov](mailto:gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

See below...we will need to provide direction on how we want to proceed.

Abby

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ed Swiatek <[eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com](mailto:eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com)>

**Date:** Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 10:43 AM

**Subject:** RE: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

**To:** Abigail Low - 3PX <[abby.low@gsa.gov](mailto:abby.low@gsa.gov)>, (b) (6) >

Abby

I spoke with a representative from Scranton this morning. His name is (b) (6) regarding the Scranton Eclipse Partitions and the NFPA 286 issue.

He stated that the Eclipse Partitions can be provided either as a Class B or NFPA 286. They (Scranton) do not have any type of differential indicator for which testing requirement would meet on their website or in their literature. Which type they provide would be based upon the specification. In our case, they provided a Class B for the ASTM E84. These do not meet NFPA 286.

Let me know if you have questions or if we need to discuss further.

Ed

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**From:** Abigail Low - 3PX <[abby.low@gsa.gov](mailto:abby.low@gsa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 11:08 AM  
**To:** Ed Swiatek <[eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com](mailto:eswiatek@mascaroconstruction.com)>; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

We need to discuss ASAP...need to change toilet partitions as the ones approved do not comply with NFPA286.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b) (6)  
Date: Tue, Feb 15, 2022 at 5:16 PM  
Subject: Re: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions  
To: Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>  
Cc: (b) (6) Gary Zimmerman - 3PXC  
<[gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov](mailto:gary.zimmerman@gsa.gov)>, Abigail Low - 3PX <[abby.low@gsa.gov](mailto:abby.low@gsa.gov)>

I believe partitions have been purchased but I will verify with (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2022, at 15:12, Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)> wrote:

(b) (6)

This issue has come up regarding the toilet partitions and it appears that a change needs to be made in the selected item from a Class B to a Class A NFPA 286 of the same color. Do you know if Mascaro have ordered the toilet partitions?

Brett Molash

Sr. Project Engineer

U.S. General Services Administration

D&C North Service Center (3PCN)

100 S. Independence Mall West

2nd Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19106

215.446.5787 (desk)

215.498.4156 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b) (6)

Date: Tue, Feb 15, 2022 at 2:01 PM

Subject: RE: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

To: (b) (6) Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>, (b) (6)

Hello:

Debbie is correct. If the toilet partitions are HDPE, then they are required to comply with NFPA 286.

We have not reviewed the toilet partition schedule, but from the snip in Debbie's email, it looks like "white" with "orange peel texture" passes both ASTM E84 with a class B rating and NFPA 286. So, if our reading is correct, the partitions would be acceptable.

Respectfully,

(b) (6) P.E., FSFPE

Senior Director

111 Rockville Pike, Suite 550, Rockville MD 20850

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 8:10 PM  
**To:** Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>; (b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

Brett - This was brought to my attention as well from the manufacturer who was listed as basis of design but was ultimately not selected by the contractor. This admittedly fell off my radar but I had come to the same conclusion as Debbie with internal discussions in my office at the time. We will need to approach Mascaro and request the Class A NFPA 286 compliant product of the same color.

(b) (6) Please confirm Debbie and EA findings are in line with your code interpretation and we will reach out to Mascaro as necessary.

Thank you Brett for bringing this to our attention to resolve.

Regards,

(b) (6)

**From:** Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 5:06 PM

**To:** (b) (6)

**Subject:** Fwd: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions

We received a FOIA request regarding the toilet partitions back in January and I provided all information I could find relative to the toilet partitions. One part of the request was in regards to the fire performance requirements of the toilet partitions. I shared the specifications and reviewed submittal with Debbie Gardner and she mentioned that there may be an issue with the toilet partitions meeting IBC requirements. Did anyone review this from Jensen Hughes? I am forwarding what Debbie provided me as well as the specific language from the FOIA request.

Any communications, analyses, or other documents concerning the fire performance requirements for toilet partitions to be installed in the Harrisburg Courthouse, including but not limited to documents concerning the compliance of said toilet partitions with 40 U.S.C. §3312, with the fire performance requirements set forth in the applicable internationally recognized model building, fire, and life safety codes (such as, for example, the International Building Code, the International Fire Code, or the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code), with the acceptance criteria set forth in NFPA 286, or with particular fire ratings set forth in ASTM E-84;

Brett Molash

Sr. Project Engineer

U.S. General Services Administration

D&C North Service Center (3PCN)

100 S. Independence Mall West

2nd Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19106

215.446.5787 (desk)

215.498.4156 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Debbie Gardner – 3PMS <[debra.gardner@gsa.gov](mailto:debra.gardner@gsa.gov)>

Date: Mon, Feb 14, 2022 at 2:38 PM  
Subject: Re: Harrisburg CH Toilet Partitions  
To: Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)>

Hi Brett:

Yes, this looks like a problem since its HDPE and indicated here below in the last snip as **Class B without mention of passing NFPA 286.**

But the manufacturer does have white available where it does mention NFPA 286

IBC 2015 (I think that's the version we used but I can get you the 2018 if that is what you need)

states

Let me know if you want to discuss further.

**803.9 High-density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP).**

Where high-density polyethylene or polypropylene is used as an interior finish it shall comply with Section 803.1.2.

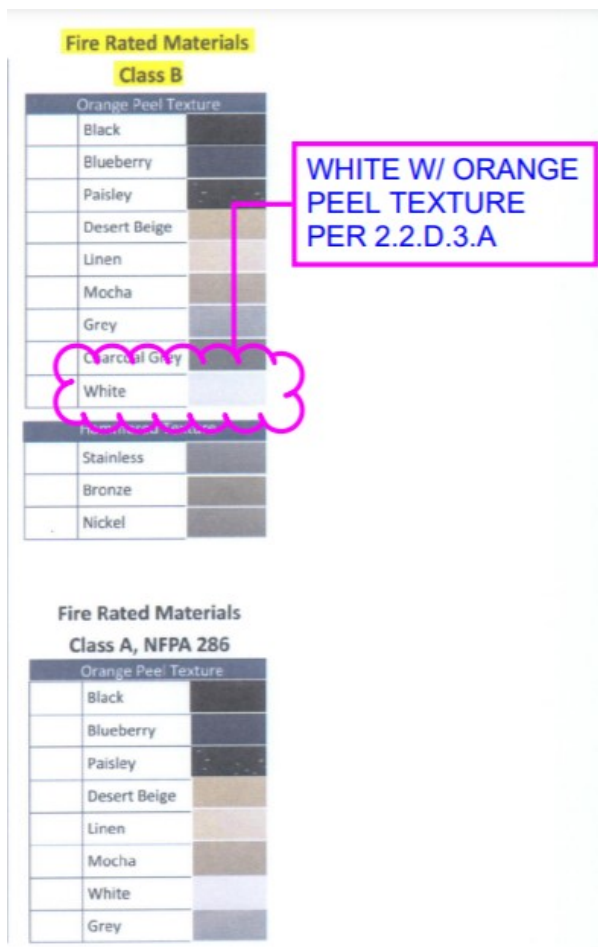
**803.1.2 Room corner test for interior wall or ceiling finish materials.**

*Interior wall or ceiling finish* materials shall be permitted to be tested in accordance with NFPA 286. Interior wall or ceiling finish materials tested in accordance with NFPA 286 shall comply with Section 803.1.2.1.

**803.1.2.1 Acceptance criteria for NFPA 286.**

The interior finish shall comply with the following:

1. During the 40 kW exposure, flames shall not spread to the ceiling.
2. The flame shall not spread to the outer extremity of the sample on any wall or ceiling.
3. Flashover, as defined in NFPA 286, shall not occur.
4. The peak heat release rate throughout the test shall not exceed 800 kW.
5. The total smoke released throughout the test shall not exceed 1,000



**U.S. General Services Administration**

Debbie Gardner, PE  
 GSA, Region 3  
 Fire Protection Engineer  
 100 S. Independence Mall West  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106  
[Debra.Gardner@GSA.gov](mailto:Debra.Gardner@GSA.gov)  
 Office: 215-606-1765  
 Cell: 215-400-1746

On Mon, Feb 14, 2022 at 1:12 PM Brett Molash - 3PCN <[brett.molash@gsa.gov](mailto:brett.molash@gsa.gov)> wrote:

Brett Molash  
Sr. Project Engineer  
U.S. General Services Administration  
D&C North Service Center (3PCN)  
100 S. Independence Mall West  
2nd Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215.446.5787 (desk)  
215.498.4156 (cell)

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Abigail Low

Project Executive

GSA

100 S. Independence Mall West

Philadelphia, PA 19106

(215) 280-6306

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Abigail Low

Project Executive

GSA  
100 S. Independence Mall West  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 280-6306